

AMENDMENT

(Amendment under article 11)

To : The Examiner of the Patent Office

1. Identification of the International Application

PTC/JP2004/010378

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4. Item to be Amended : Description and Claims

5. Content of Amendment

(1) "and urging members inserted between the spacer ring and the outer ring and having an urging force substantially equivalent to a clamping force of the mold at the time of vulcanization" as set forth in page 4, line 3 is amended to:

"wherein the spacer ring is slidably installed on the top surface

of the outer ring through urging members having an urging force substantially equivalent to a clamping force of the mold at the time of vulcanization."

(2) "In accordance with a second aspect of the invention, there is provided the split-type vulcanizing mold according to the first aspect of the invention wherein the urging members are preferably provided with a predetermined pre-load." as set forth in page 4, line 6 is amended to:

"In accordance with a second aspect of the invention, there is provided the split-type vulcanizing mold according to the first aspect of the invention wherein the urging members are preferably provided with a predetermined pre-load.

In accordance with a third aspect of the invention, there is provided the split-type vulcanizing mold according to the first or the second aspect of the invention wherein the urging members are preferably set such that a proper mold clamping force of the mold is provided when a deflection thereof is approximately half a deflection thereof at the time of the maximum load."

(3) "According to the second aspect of the invention, the spacer ring is installed by providing the urging members with a pre-load relative to the outer ring, so that the bolster plate, the spacer ring, and the outer ring can be smoothly moved in unison without backlash in the axial direction all the time." as set forth in page 4, line 12 is amended to:

"According to the second aspect of the invention, the spacer ring is installed by providing the urging members with a pre-load relative to the outer ring, so that the bolster plate, the spacer ring,

and the outer ring can be smoothly moved in unison without backlash in the axial direction all the time.

According to the third aspect of the invention, the urging members are set to provide proper clamping force when a deflection of the urging members is approximately half of the maximum deflection thereof, so that it becomes possible to absorb variation in dimensions regardless of whether the variation in dimensions, at the time of fabricating the mold, is on a plus side or minus side to thereby clamp the respective sector molds with the proper clamping force.

(4) "and urging members inserted between the spacer ring and the outer ring and having an urging force substantially equivalent to a clamping force of the mold at the time of vulcanization." as set forth in page 9, claim 1 is amended to:

"wherein the spacer ring is slidably installed on the top surface of the outer ring through urging members having an urging force substantially equivalent to a clamping force of the mold at the time of vulcanization." and claim 3 is added.

6. List of attached documents

- (1) page 4 and 4/1, Specification
- (2) Claim page 9